

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
 ICA-11 TRSE-00 /069 W
 -----077736 051857Z /75

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6938
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1806

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, GY, VE
SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF GUYANESE AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA

1. GUYANA CHRONICLE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT MR. RUDOLPH "RUDY" COLLINS,
PERMANENT SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HAS BEEN
APPOINTED

AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA FROM GUYANA. COLLINS WAS BORN AUGUST 27,
1936
IN GUYANA, AND JOINED THE FOREIGN SERVICE IN 1969.

2. COLLINS WAS APPOINTED PERMANENT SECRETARY IN 1972 AND IS THE
HIGHEST RANKING CIVIL SERVANT IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE WAS A
DELEGATE TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1973 AND 1974 AND HAS TRAVELED
EXTENSIVELY ON TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS ABROAD.

3. COLLINS IS A GLIB, SELF-ASSURED INDIVIDUAL WHO IS CONSIDERED TO
BE TOTALLY LOYAL TO PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM AND THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL
CONGRESS. HE AND FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER FRED WILLS WERE KNOWN TO
HAVE
HAD A STRAINED RELATIONSHIP AND COLLINS MAY HAVE PLAYED A ROLE IN
WILL'S
FIRING LAST FEBRUARY. (PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF WILLS' FIRING WAS A POLICY
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DIFFERENCE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER OVER THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF
GUYANESE FOREIGN POLICY, WITH WILLS ARGUING IN FAVOR OF A MORE
PRAGMATIC APPROACH RATHER THAN STRICT ADHERENCE TO NON-ALIGNMENT
WITH PRIORITY GIVEN TO CLOSE TIES WITH CUBA AND THE USSR.) HIS
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PRESENT FOREIGN MINISTER, RASHLEIGH JACKSON,
WHOSE COMMITMENT TO GUYANA'S THIRD WORLD ROLE IS UNQUESTIONED,
HAS BEEN EXCELLENT.

4. COLLINS IS MARRIED TO AN ATTRACTIVE JAMAICAN WHO HAS HER OWN CAREER AS A LIBRARIAN. IN CONVERSATION, SHE HAS INDICATED THAT SHE HAS LITTLE INTEREST IN GOING TO CARACAS SO IT IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER SHE WILL ACCOMPANY COLLINS TO VENEZUELA. SHOULD SHE NOT, COLLINS WHO HAS SOMETHING OF A REPUTATION AS A LADIES MAN, WILL PROBABLY NOT SPEND ALL OF HIS EVENINGS AT HOME READING A BOOK. COLLINS WILL BE SOMEWHAT HAMPERED IN HIS ASSIGNMENT BY HIS UNFAMILIARITY WITH SPANISH.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 05 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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